## Message Text

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15 S

**ACTION NEA-06** 

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 DODE-00

INR-05 CIAE-00 L-01 SP-02 EB-03 /040 W

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R 210735Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2160

CONFIDENTIAL TRIPOLI 0470

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: STATUS OF LIBYAN AIR DEFENSE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: TRIPOLI 262

- 1. ITT REPRESENTATIVE TOLD EMBASSY LIBYAN GOVT HAS MADE BASIC CHANGE IN ITS APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT OF AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM. STEAD OF AWARDING ONE GIANT CONTRACT FOR COMPLETE SYSTEM (US\$150 MILLION OR MORE), IT INTENDS TO BEGIN MORE MODESTLY BY CONCLUDING CONTRACT FOR INTERIM SYSTEM ESTIMATED AT ONLY US\$15 MILLION. INTERIM SYSTEM WOULD NOT BE BUILT FOR INTEGRATION LATER INTO PREVIOUSLY CONTEMPLATED COMPLETE COUNTRY-WIDE SYSTEM.
- 2. CONTRACT FOR INTERIM SYSTEM IS CONSIDERABLE SCALE-DOWN OF FULL PROJECT. FULL SYSTEM INVOLVES FOUR GEOGRAPHICAL SECTORS (TRIPOLI, SIRTE, BENGHAZI, AND TOBRUK). INTERIM SYSTEM WILL BE TRIPOLI (FIVE RADAR SITES) AND BENGHAZI (TWO SITES). SYSTEM ENDS AT SECTOR AIR DEFENSE HEADQUARTERS WITH VISUAL DISPLAY. AT THAT POINT THERE IS HUMAN LINK TO MISSILE BATTALIONS (ONE EACH OF SIX BATTERIES AT TRIPOLI AND BENGHAZI). BATTALION COMMANDERS WILL APPARENTLY HAVE FULL CONTROL OF THEIR ORDINANCE IN RESPONDING TO INFO PROVIDED BY SECTOR HEADQUARTERS.

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3. UNDER TERMS OF EXPORT LICENSE APPROVAL ITT WOULD MOUNT

ITS RADAR, WHICH IS BASICALLY MARINE CORPS MOBILE SYSTEM, INTO CONCRETE TO ELIMINATE MOBILITY.

4. AFTER INITIAL RESISTANCE TO THE IDEA, ITT HAS NOW BEEN OBLIGED TO ACCEPT REPRESENTATION BY LIBYAN GOVT CONTROLLED AFRICA TRADE AND IMPORT (TRIPOLI 171). ATI FEE IS ONE PERCENT FOR THIS CONTRACT. CONTRACT TALKS ARE EXPECTED TO BE DIFFICULT, BECAUSE LIBYANS ARE INSISTING FROM OUTSET ON PERFORMANCE TERMS ITT FINDS UNACCEPTABLE. STEIN

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

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